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LETTER DATED 14 NOVEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Since the cease-fire entered into force on 3 April 1991, the United States has been assiduous in daily contravening the provisions of the cease-fire laid down in Security Council resolution 687 (1991) through the continued violation of Iraqi airspace by its fighter aircraft. The total number of such violations since that date and up to the time of the writing of this letter amounts to more than 1,500 sorties, the particulars of which have been notified to you one by one. They were accompanied by many instances of provocation and breaking of the sound barrier, which terrorized civilian citizens, particularly children, and caused many miscarriages in pregnant women, as well as large-scale damage to property and public buildings.

Here I wish to state that the number of violations committed by United States fighter aircraft in Iraqi airspace during the period from 4 to 11 November 1991 totalled 227 sorties for the purpose of surveillance and provocation, as follows:

Date	Particulars
4-5 November 1991	- 19 sorties flown by nine two-aircraft formations and one single aircraft at speeds of 700-850 km/h and at altitudes of 1,000-6,500 m, centred on Amadiyah, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Irbil and Dukan. - At 1130 hours, two F-111s overflew Firnas airfield at a speed of 800 km/h and at an altitude of only 50 m. - At 1330 hours, two F-16s overflew Firnas airfield at a speed of 800 km/h and at an altitude of 300 m. - At 1340 hours, two F-1s overflew Firnas airfield at a speed of 850 km/h and at an altitude of 50 m.

Date	Particulars
5-6 November 1991	- 21 sorties flown by one four-aircraft formation, eight two-aircraft formations and one single aircraft at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 1,500-6,000 m, centred on Zakho, Dohuk, Irbil, Mosul, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.
	- At 1118 hours, two F-111s overflew Faruq airfield at a speed of 500 km/h and at an altitude of 300 m.
	- At 1130 hours, two Mirage 2000s and two Tornadoes overflew Faruq airfield at a speed of 800 km/h and at altitudes of 100-300 m.
	- At 1140 hours, two F-111s overflew Faruq airfield twice, the first time at a speed of 500 km/h and at an altitude of 100 m and the second at a speed of 1,000 km/h and at an altitude of 150 m.
6-7 November 1991	- 43 sorties flown by 21 aircraft formations and one single aircraft at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 1,000-6,000 km. The flights centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.
	- From 0625 to 0745 hours, three formations, each consisting of two F-16s, overflew Faruq airfield at speeds of 600-700 km/h and at altitudes of 15-100 m.
	- From 0800 to 2035 hours, five formations, each consisting of two aircraft of various types, overflew Firnas airfield at a speed of 500-800 km/h and at altitudes from 20 m to 3,000 m. One of the formations dropped two illuminating shells while turning on its afterburners.
7-8 November 1991	- 38 sorties flown by 18 two-aircraft formations and one single aircraft at speeds of 600-950 km/h and at altitudes of 500-6,500 m. The flights centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Rawanduz, Sinjar and Tall Afar.
	- At 0710, 0930 and 1030 hours successively, three formations, each consisting of two F-16s, overflew Faruq airfield at a speed of 600 km/h and at altitudes from 100-200 m.

Date	Particulars
	- At 0915 hours, two Mirage 2000s overflew Faruq airfield at a speed of 500 km/h and at an altitude of 200 m.
	- At 1345 and 1500 hours, two formations, each consisting of two F-1s, overflew Faruq airfield at a speed of 600 km/h and at altitudes of 50-200 m.
	- At 1645 hours, an F-111 overflew Faruq airfield at a speed of 600 km/h and at an altitude of 50 m.
8-9 November 1991	- 34 sorties flown by 12 two-aircraft formations, two four-aircraft formations and one single aircraft at speeds of 660-900 km/h and at altitudes of 1,500-18,000 m. The flights centred on Zakho, Dohuk, Irbil, Mosul, Tall Afar, Dukan, Ayn Zalah and Amadiyah.
	- At 0810, 0915, 1015 and 1040 hours, formations of F-16s and Tornadoes overflew Faruq airfield at various speeds and at very low altitudes.
10-11 November 1991	- 18 sorties flown by nine two-aircraft formations at speeds of 750-900 km/h and at altitudes of 1,500-5,500 m. The flights centred on Mosul, Irbil, Zakho, Tall Afar, Dohuk and Ayn Zalah.
	- At 0720 hours, two F-111s overflew Firnas airfield at a speed of 650 km/h and at an altitude of 10 m.
	- At 1110 hours, two F-1s overflew Faruq airfield at a speed of 600 km/h and at an altitude of 200 m.

As we inform you of these United States violations, which endanger international peace and security by their continuing infringement of the sovereignty of a State Member of the Organization, we are entitled to ask about the nature of the measures taken by the United Nations under the Charter to put a halt to these violations, which are contrary to all international instruments and customs and whose continuation constitutes a clear and unambiguous violation of the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular Article 2 (4) of the Charter of the Organization, which expresses the essence of collective security through the stipulation that all Members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

Silence over these actions carried out by the United States of America under cover of international legitimacy can only lead to loss of credibility by the United Nations with regard to the protection of the independence and sovereignty of Member States. Disregarding them is contrary to the provisions of Article 6 of the Charter, which permits the General Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Security Council, to expel any Member of the United Nations which has persistently violated the principles of the Charter.

In placing these facts before the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the members of the Security Council and all the States, peoples and organizations of the world, we hope that the world will comprehend the extent of the excesses perpetrated by the United States in the use of unjustified force in contradiction to Security Council resolutions and in contempt for the feelings of Iraqi citizens, disturbing their tranquillity, safety and security.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative